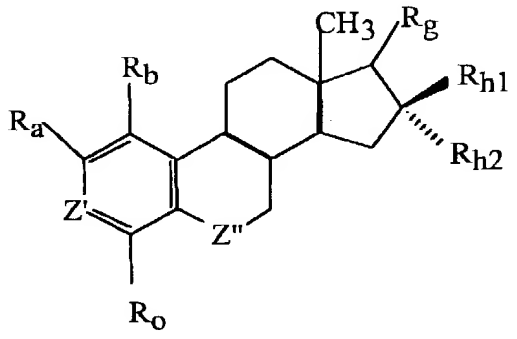
Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Presently Amended) A compound of the general formula:



wherein:

a) R_b and R_o are independently -H, ~~unless otherwise noted to be -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CN, lower alkyl, -OH, -OR6, -CH2-OH, -NH2, or N(R6)(R7), wherein R6 and R7 are independently hydrogen or an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons~~;

b) R_a is $-OCH_3$ ~~-N3, -C≡N, -CH2-C≡R, -C≡C-R, -C=CH-R, -R-C=CH2, -C≡CH, -CH2-C≡N, -C(O)-OR3, -O-R, -R-R1, -O-R-R1, OR(O)R, OR(O)R1, R(O)R, R(O)R1, -NHC(O)R6, -NRC(O)R6, -NH2, or N(R6)(R7), wherein R6 and R7 are independently hydrogen or an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons, or a hetero group wherein the hetero group may have more than one hetero atom and may be substituted, where R is H or a straight or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl, and in any position F may be substituted in or on the carbon chain, and R1 is -OH, -NH2, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F or -CF3 when R1 is terminal~~;

c) Z' is >COH, unless otherwise noted to be >C-OAc;

d) ~~>C-Rg is >CH2, >C=O, >C=N-OH, >C(R3)OH, >C=N-OR3, >C(H)-NH2, >C(H)-NHR3, >C(H)-NR3R4, or >C(H)-C(O)-R3, where each R3 and R4 is independently an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl; or~~

R_g is i) an alkyl of 1-10 carbon atoms that is straight chain or branched, ii) an alkenyl of 1-10 carbon atoms that is straight chain or branched having one or more double bonds at any position from C to Zo, iii) an alkenyl group of 1-10 carbon atoms that is straight chain or branched having one or more triple bonds at any position where chemically possible, iv) a

mono or dialkyl amino group wherein each alkyl chain has from 1-10 carbon atoms and is straight chain or branched, v) $(CH_2)_n$-CF_2-, $(CH_2)_n$-CR_1 or $(CH_2)_n$-CF_3 wherein n=0-10 carbons, or vi) H, and wherein any of i-iv are optionally substituted with an aromatic or heteroaromatic group or optionally substituted with a heterogroup and wherein R_g is either in the α or β position, wherein R_g is not -OH; or

R_g is Rg_1 and Rg_2, and wherein Rg_1 may be present or absent and when present is –H, an alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl of 1-10 carbon atoms that is straight chain or branched and is optionally substituted, and Rg_2 is a hetero group, wherein when Rg_1 is absent the heterogroup is bonded to the 17-position with a double bond, and wherein either Rg_1 or Rg_2 can be in the β position with the other group in the α position, and R_1 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F or CF_3 when R_1 is terminal, and wherein Rg_1 or Rg_2 are not together -H and –OH;

e) R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H~~, unless otherwise noted to be a straight or branched chain alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl with up to 10 carbons that is unsubstituted, or substituted with one or more groups selected from a hetero functionality that is either not substituted, mono-substituted or multiply substituted with an alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl chain up to 10 carbons; a halo functionality (F, Cl, Br or I); an aromatic group optionally substituted with at least one hetero, halo or alkyl; or R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently a group containing at least one alphatic or aromatic group optionally substituted with at least one hetero, halo or alkyl~~; and

f) Z" is $>CH_2$~~;~~

~~and wherein all monosubstituted substituents have either an α or β configuration;~~

~~and wherein lower alkyl is defined as a carbon chain having 1-10 carbon atoms which may be branched or unbranched~~.

2. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein~~:~~

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$; and~~

R_{g1} and R_{g2} are each H.

3. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

R_a is $-OCH_3$; ~~and~~

R_b and R_o are both –H;

Z' is >C-OH;

Z" is $>CH_2$;

R_g is $=CH_2$; and

R_{h1} and R_{h2} are both -H.

4. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

Rg_1 is absent; and

R_{g2} is =NOH.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

Rg_1 is –H; and

R_{g2} is $-NH_2$.

7. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

Z' is >C-OAc;

Rg_1 is -H; and

R_{g2} is -OAc.

8. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

Rg_1 is –H; and

R_{g2} is $-CH_2CH_2CH_3$.

9. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

Rg_1 is –H; and

R_{g2} is $-CH_3$.

10. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$; and~~

R_g is $=CHCH_2CH_3$.

11. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

Rg_1 is –H; and

R_{g2} is $-NHCH_2CH_2CH_3$.

12. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$; and~~

R_g is $=CHCH_3$.

13. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

Rg_1 is –H; and

R_{g2} is $-CH_2CH_3$.

14. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$; and~~

R_g is $=N\text{-}NH\text{-}(SO_2)\text{-}C_6H_4\text{-}p\text{-}CH_3$.

15. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

R_g1 is H; and

R_g2 is -COOH.

16-87. (Canceled).

89. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein :

~~R_a is $-OCH_3$;~~

R_g1 is H; and

R_g2 is $-CH_2OH$.

90-92. (Canceled).

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